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No. 158.
[New Issue.]

SATURDAY, MAY 15, 1875.

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It is our intention to illustrate or describe the most artistic and representative works from all sources within our reach, and we are glad to be able to inform our Subscribers that His Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh has graciously placed his valuable collection of Works of Japanese Art, obtained during His Royal Highness's residence in Japan, at our disposal for illustration; and that through the kind permission of the Minister at Berlin, and the able services of Dr. J. G. Th. Græse, Director of the Green Vaults and Japanese Museum at Dresden, we are enabled to give full Coloured Illustrations of several superb specimens of Old Japanese Porcelain, selected by ourselves from the large collection in the Japanese Palace. The collection has been preserved in Dresden for nearly two centuries, but until now no illustration has been produced of its contents.

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The remaining portion of the Work will be entirely devoted to the subject of the Ceramic Art of Japan, opening with a treatise on the Art generally, and followed by sectional chapters upon the various wares of Hizen, Kioto, Satsuma, Kaga, Owari, Awagi, Ise, &c., concluding with a chapter devoted to the consideration and representation of all the ordinary marks and inscriptions found on Ancient and Modern Porcelain and Faience of Japan. This portion of the Work will be illustrated by Fifty Folio Plates and numerous Woodcuts.

No care or expense will be spared in the production of the various Plates of the Work. MM. Didot Frères, Fils et Cie. have undertaken to produce the Coloured Plates at their Paris establishment; and the whole will be drawn and printed under the able direction of M. Racinet, one of the most talented and experienced chromo-lithographic artists in Europe. The Coloured Plates already produced have been pronounced to be the finest prepared for any English work, and quite unsurpassed in the whole range of the Chromo-lithographic art. The Plates in Monochrome are being prepared by Messrs. Spencer, Sawyer, Bird & Co., of the Autotype Printing Works, Ealing Dean, from Photographs specially taken for the Work by Mr. William Keith. The Plates illustrating the Essay on Japanese Art are photo-lithographed by Mr. James Akerman, and the Wood Engravings are by Messrs. Dalziel Brothers, who have undertaken to render them perfect fac-similes of the originals.

The Work will contain in all Sixty-three Plates, Thirty-five of which will be in Gold and Colours. Each Plate will be attended by special Descriptive Letterpress, giving the peculiarities and dimensions of the objects illustrated, and the names of the persons from whose collections they have been selected.

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The number of copies of the English (folio) Edition will be strictly limited to 1,000, about 400 of which are already appropriated.

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